

Delegate Report: Good morning, Area 15. I'm an alcoholic, my name is Annie C., Delegate Panel 67, Area 15 S. Florida, Bahamas, US & British Virgin Islands, Antigua, St. Maarten and the Cayman Islands. I am a member of the Meat & Potatoes Group in Parrish, FL – District 4. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Delegate. This has been a fantastic weekend so far! Thank you, Paul & Enrique for sharing with us Friday night. Many thanks to Alex and the host committee for the loving invitation to share with you last night. Ino it was great to share the podium with you last evening and to hear more about your journey. Thank you to both District 8 & 17 for coming together through the “Language of the Heart” and co-hosting this wonderful Assembly.

Welcome to all the new GSR's & Alternate GSR's. We are all here to assist you in your journey. We have been where you are. Please know that all of us help each other, so please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about General Service. Later today we will have elections for our Area Delegate, Area Alternate Delegate and Area Officers that will serve Panel 69; which begins on January 1, 2019. I encourage you to stand if you meet the qualifications. I hope you will all stay until the end...it is always amazing how our Third Legacy procedure works! Later this month I will travel to District 19 to present the last Conference Report from the 68th General Service Conference. And in November, I will be attending the Southeast Regional Forum. Final Conference Reports were distributed to the District Chairs yesterday. The Anonymity Protected Version of the 68th Conference Final Report was submitted to our Area Website Committee for posting in the *secure password protected section of the Delegates Corner*.

Regional: In August I attended the 62nd Florida State Convention. I would like to thank the Program committee for the loving invitation to present on (2) separate panels. It was great to learn from the other presenters regarding anonymity & social media as well as putting together the Recipe for Success with our 12 Steps, 12 Traditions & 12 Concepts. The various workshops, speakers and Meet & Greet activities were great. One of the highlights was the Service Manual Musical I hope you will have an opportunity to see it in the future! Possibly at the next Florida State Convention which will take place July 31st – August 4th in Miami. Registration is open, and a great program is planned for all in attendance. The 2018 Southeast Regional Forum will take place November 16-18, 2018 in Sterling, Virginia. Information can be found at www.aa.org. The flyers are available in English & Spanish. The group rate and code are good until October 26, 2018. I hope to see you there.

News from the General Service Board: During the last quarter, many of the Conference Advisory Actions and Committee Consideration items have begun being implemented by our General Service Office. A polling of the General Service Conference members to resolve a discrepancy with the schedule dates for the 2019 Conference took place between July 9-22. There was 100% participation and the resolved dates are now set for May 19-25, 2019. The Anonymity in a Digital Age poster is available at www.aa.org as well as many of the new and revised pamphlets that were approved including The God Word, Experience, Strength & Hope: Women in AA, Experience, Strength & Hope: A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues. There are (2) pamphlets under development that our Trustees Literature Committee is looking for submissions from the Fellowship. One is the pamphlet on A.A.'s Three Legacies, and the other is the pamphlet for Spanish speaking Women in AA. To date there is only one submission for the Spanish speaking Women in AA and (2) submissions for the Three Legacies pamphlet. Please consider sending in your story. Submission deadline is **November 19, 2018**. Recently, our GSO Archives department has completed a project of deciphering & typing up handwritten letters from Dr. Bob that were addressed to either Ruth Hock, Bobby B., or Bill W. There are over 92 letters from 1935-1950. Our General Service Office has (2) openings for a staff position. If you are interested, please see me for the information. Deadline for submission is **October 19, 2018**. The abridged report from the Impact Collaborative was sent to Conference members, I have shared this with the Area. Please ask your District Chair or me for a copy so you can see how we can better carry the message to the alcoholic that has not found the rooms of AA yet. In early September our staff rotation took place at the General Service Office. I have sent a copy of all the new assignments to our Area committee and submitted to our Website committee for posting, as well as the anonymity protected version of the Final Conference Report from the 68th General Service Conference. Please be sure to visit the Delegate Corner for this information. The planning is well underway for the 2020 International Convention which will be held July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan. More information will be in issues of Box 459 and on www.aa.org.

Financial: Contributions for the first six months of the year are \$3.8 million with \$369,000 coming from *Online contributions*. Total revenue (gross profit from literature *plus* contributions) was \$8.6 million. Expenses for the first six months of 2018 are \$8.7 million. The combination of revenue and expenses resulted in a loss to our G.S.O. of \$140,543 for the first six months of 2018. The increase in expenses are due to (8) new employee hires, increased costs for the 2018 General Service Conference, Professional Fees, and editorial services for the ASL project. The Reserve Fund had a balance of \$15,848,371 which represents 10.4 months of combined 2018 budgeted operating expense. Everyone at our General Service Office thanks the groups for their continued support. The semi-annual contributions report was sent to our Area Treasurer for review & distribution to the Districts.

Grapevine: Fellowship wide support remains key to the future of Grapevine and LaVina. Local efforts are essential in reaching the AA members. Average paid circulation for the first six months of 2018 was 67,427, Online and GV subscription app was 5,600. Total gross profit was \$924,414 total costs & expenses were \$889,296 after interest earned there was a net profit for the first six month of 2018 of \$45,118. General Service Board support of service activity for La Vina was \$68,230 for the first six months of 2018. The new publication One Big Tent – which Atheist & Agnostic AA members share their experience is available on www.AAGrapevine.org. Please visit the website for all the new booklets and items.

Later this afternoon, we will be holding elections for the Panel 69 Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Area Officers. Some of you in this room may be brand new GSR's and not understand the Third Legacy process. I encourage those of you that have witnessed or participated in this amazing process to help our new members. Over 25 years ago, I sat here in my first Area 15 voting Assembly to elect the Delegate. I didn't completely understand the process but was intrigued to see how it all works. I kept coming back to these quarterly meetings and over time you taught me what General Service is all about. You taught me about how important it is to be a General Service Representative (GSR) and later in time a District Committee Member (DCM). You gave me The Service Manual to read and study. You taught me how important committee work is in carrying the message of recovery, you taught me about the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts, you taught me to look at the "whole" of A.A. and not just my group, my District or my Area. You taught me to listen, raise questions and stand up for principles over personalities. Back then, I never thought I would have the privilege & honor to stand before you today as the Delegate for Area 15. This journey has been one that can be summed up from a line in our book, Alcoholics Anonymous. You will be rocketed into a 4th dimension of existence. The members I have met while visiting your districts have filled my heart & will always be there. The people that I have been blessed to serve with and meet along this journey will always have a place in my heart. I cannot say "thank-you" enough to my friends & mentors over the years. The biggest "thank-you" goes to my husband - without your love, encouragement, support and "holding up the fort while I traveled" I could not have done this. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to serve you! Respectfully Submitted, In Love & Service, Annie C., Delegate